

place of honor. I think our political community has deteriorated tremendously since Gerald Ford and I served as presidents, and we often talk about our concerns and those changes. Rather than politics as usual, strong leadership and honest answers are needed."

He says that, for instance, as President, he had gotten along with the Republicans in the House and Senate; that he had often gotten the support of many Republicans on major legislation, sometimes even better than with the Democrats. "Now, the two parties are bitterly divided, with little cooperation between them," he adds. "Also, nowadays, the success of many political campaigns is predicated on how well you can damage the reputation of your opponent. That turns off the average citizen, and leads to a partisan and personally destructive situation."

He also points out that Congress continues to be pulled in all directions by well financed and powerful special interests. "But we cannot change the course until we face the truth," he says. "Restoring faith and confidence to America is now still our most important task . . . and now it is a solid, significant challenge."

In recent years, Carter has given a lot of thought to the virtues of aging, especially as it relates to Social Security. He notes that in 1935, when Social Security legislation was passed, its purpose was to give older people a subsistence income.

"Today," he says, "because of improvements in health and health care, many senior citizens are still in a position to contribute to society. We elderly should be allowed to work as long as we wish—or are able to."

However, Carter voices concerns about the future of Social Security. "The oldest baby boomer will start to receive Social Security in the year 2010," he notes. "By the time my newest grandson, now two months old, is a middle aged wage earner, one in four Americans will be over 65."

Emphasizing that our Social Security system is in trouble and that something will have to change, he recalls that when Social Security was established there were about 40 wage earners supporting each retiree with tax contributions. "By 2010, only two persons will be paying for the retirement and medical expenses of one senior citizen," he says.

"We should be more vigilant and forceful in protecting those who are in need of financial assistance. Today, there are numerous senior citizens who cannot afford health care and many older citizens with little money, or whose savings are expended before their lives end."

Carter says he tries to practice what he preaches. In his book, "The Virtues of Aging" (Times Books, 1998), he notes that the virtues of aging include the blessings that come as one grows older and what we have to offer that might be beneficial to others.

"Each of us is old when we think we are," he writes. "When we accept an attitude of dormancy, dependence on others, a substantial limitation on our physical and mental activity, and restrictions on the number of people with whom we interact. . . . As I know from experience, this is not tied closely to how many years we live."

He cites, as one example, his mother—a compassionate woman who always tried to help others. She joined the Peace Corps at age 68 in 1996 and served for two years in the village of Vikhroli, near Bombay, India. In Feb. 1977, Lillian Carter as First Mother revisited that village when she represented the U.S. at the funeral of India's President Ali Ahmed Fakhruddin. And during hundreds of speeches about her experiences in the Peace Corps, she encouraged others not to allow old age to put a limit on their lives.

"You know," Carter says, "There is a huge difference between getting older and growing old." When my father died, my mother was 55 years old, past retirement age for most registered nurses. Yet she continued to age for 30 more years, but she never grew old. Until she died of cancer at age 85, she was full of life and determined to make each day a new adventure.

"Mother had the most influence over me, and was an inspiration for me. Except for Rosalynn, she affected my life more than any other person."

If there is any secret to Carter's looking and feeling younger than his years, he reveals that perhaps it is because Rosalynn is a stickler for nutrition and an expert on "exactly what we should or should not eat . . . and how much and when. . . ."

"Then, I'm always exercising," he adds, "and luck could also be a factor."

For exercise and recreation, Carter keeps fit and trim by hiking, bicycling, cross-country skiing and bowling. He also jogs, fly fishes, does woodworking, cabinet making and plays tennis. Behind his home he built—by himself—a tennis court. (It was the topic of conversation with network commentators when he attended the recent Women's Finals of tennis' U.S. Open in New York).

He also says that, so far, he and Rosalynn have been blessed with good health—"perhaps because of our various activities—living a diverse life, with different elements to it—that kind of life is less likely to be afflicted with illness."

He adds: "Today, we combine taking care of our farm with other activities. One nice aspect about having been president is that we have an unlimited menu because different people invite us to join in their projects, and now we are free to do what gives us pleasure."

"We have climbed mountains in Nepal, to the tops of Kilimajaro and Mt. Fuji. We visited game preserves in Tanzania and have become bird watchers."

And as a hunter, Carter says he still tries to harvest two wild turkeys each year for his family's Thanksgiving and Christmas meals.

Jimmy Carter, the most visible member of Habitat for Humanity, also says that every year he goes to a different site to help build at least one house for a poor family. For one week, he works with the family and other volunteers. They start with a concrete slab and by week's end, they complete the job as a finished landscaped house. "Habitat and I get a lot of publicity for each other even though I only work one week a year," he explains. "But the satisfaction is great."

Last year, he chose the Philippines, where he and two former and a current president of the Philippines joined together to build one house for a large family. In the same week, 293 other houses were built in the Philippines by some 10,000 volunteers.

Asked if he considers himself a role model for other senior citizens, Carter says he believes that we all can learn from one another. "With few exceptions," he says, "anyone can find an exciting and fulfilling life after reaching retirement age. I think senior citizens who have setbacks or a surprising retirement—as I had—ought to analyze what they have and decide how to live a meaningful life. Sometimes, an unanticipated life, one you thought would be a disappointment, can turn out to be even better than the one you wanted to cling to."

Carter sums up: "As we get older, senior citizens need to avoid mental dormancy and keep our minds occupied. Mental and physical activities strengthen us and give us a foundation for successful aging. Even though my health is now good and I'm still active in sports, I am often reminded that I face inevitable changes in health as I grow older."

All in all, does aging bother Jimmy Carter?

"Aging doesn't bother me—yet," he replies with a wry smile, "but I'm already preparing for a reduced capacity. I expect to cut the time I devote to overseas work—from peace negotiations; to monitoring elections; to eradicating disease, to eliminating suffering . . . and then I can spend more time at home in Georgia."

"There is a leadership succession plan for The Carter Center, but any transition is a high priority of mine."

For some 17 years, Carter has been a "distinguished professor" at Emory University, where he spends one week each month during the academic year. He lectures on numerous topics, including theology, medicine, journalism, creative writing, business, political science, history, and anthropology.

He also meets with undergraduate and graduate students, adding a different kind of rigor to doctoral examinations. At times, he deals with current history—history that he himself helped to make. ●

REINSDORF STEPS UP TO THE PLATE FOR EDUCATION

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to call the attention of my colleagues to a column by Raymond Coffey which appeared in the Chicago Sun-Times on September 30, 1999. Mr. Coffey describes the efforts undertaken by Chicago White Sox owner Jerry Reinsdorf to improve literacy among children in Chicago's public schools.

Mr. Reinsdorf is assisting Chicago School Board President Gery Chico and Chicago Public Schools CEO Paul Vallas in the implementation and financing of Direct Instruction, a program that uses phonics to teach reading in the schools. This summer, Mr. Reinsdorf also designated White Sox manager Jerry Manuel and rookie sensation Chris Singleton to sign autographs for all fans donating books to Target Literacy, a joint initiative by Target stores and Sox Training Centers that is seeking to donate a million children's books to needy kids. Mr. Reinsdorf has also worked with Mr. Vallas to provide free tickets to public school students who have distinguished themselves through their academic achievements.

Mr. President, it is important to recognize individuals in our community who go beyond the call of duty to improve the lives of people who are less fortunate than them. Chicago can be proud of the winning efforts undertaken by Mr. Reinsdorf throughout the city. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Mr. Reinsdorf's charitable efforts by having Ray Coffey's column from the Chicago Sun-Times printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Chicago Sun-Times, Sept. 30, 1999]

OUT TO PROVE KIDS CAN LEARN

(By Raymond Coffey)

As his "The Kids Can Play" White Sox close out the baseball season this weekend, Jerry Reinsdorf himself gets my vote as one of the most valuable players Chicago kids have going for them.

Though they played before mostly empty seats at Comiskey Park and drew little serious attention or respect, the rebuilding Sox did win more games than the hapless last-

place Cubs who, thanks to the Sammy Sosa phenomenon, set an all-time attendance record.

More significant than won-lost and tickets-sold records in my score book is what Reinsdorf, who never toots his own horn, is doing for kids.

Perhaps most valuable is the working relationship he has established with Chicago School Board President Gery Chico and CEO Paul Vallas in supporting and helping finance literacy programs in the schools. Reinsdorf has, as Sox director of community relations Christine Makowski put it, "a genuine heartfelt belief" that literacy is a survival skill without which inner-city kids cannot succeed in making their future.

He has worked with Vallas on pushing a program called Direct Instruction—basically a way to teach reading in the schools via phonics. He volunteered to serve as Principal for a Day at Doolittle Middle School near Comiskey Park and regularly has dispatched Sox players to the school to talk with students about the value of education.

When Vallas wants to recognize and reward students for scholastic achievement, Reinsdorf regularly arranges free tickets for him to bring sizable groups of kids of a ballgame.

Chico and Vallas are in "constant communication" with Reinsdorf, Makowski says. "They can call him anytime" and get help on the schools.

This summer Reinsdorf assigned Sox manager Jerry Manuel and rookie star Chris Singleton to sign autographs for all fans donating books to Target Literacy, a joint initiative by the Target stores and the Sox Training Centers for youngsters to donate a million children's books to needy kids.

Reinsdorf takes a lot of media heat for the way he operates the Sox and his Chicago Bulls. And there is, obviously, some self-interest in what he does for kids in connection with his sports franchises and through the separate Sox and Bulls Charities.

This season, the Sox gave away 35,000 free tickets, worth about \$600,000, to such inner-city social welfare organizations as Boys and Girls Clubs, Mercy Home for Wayward Kids, Hull House and Maryville Academy. The tickets weren't selling anyway, but they went to kids unlikely to be able to buy them and also otherwise unlikely to get to see a big league game.

Reinsdorf also has donated 3,000 autographed Sox items to charity raffles and auctions. Members of the current "Kids" roster

have made 60 appearances before community groups.

Through White Sox Charities, Reinsdorf also has distributed more than \$3 million to nonprofit organizations, including \$1 million to the Chicago Park District to refurbish and maintain 800 baseball diamonds. White Sox Charities also funds the Inner City Little League baseball season. And it has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for cancer research and treatment at Children's Memorial and Northwestern Memorial hospitals.

Some 3,000 kids were offered baseball instruction this summer at 160 weeklong camps in the Chicago area and neighboring states. At Comiskey Park itself, before the Sox take the field, kids can get free coaching in batting and pitching cages inside Gate 3.

As Makowski acknowledges, Reinsdorf and the Sox franchise hope the focus on kids will generate a new generation of baseball fans. "We'd like to give them their first major league experience," she said. "We want them to have fun." If they go home "a Sox fan, so much the better."

Even better, they might sometime soon see that indeed "The Kids Can Play."●

REVISED REPORT OF EXPENDITURES OF FOREIGN CURRENCIES AND APPROPRIATED FUNDS

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FOREIGN CURRENCIES AND APPROPRIATED FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1, TO JUNE 30, 1999

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Joseph Biden:									
United States	Dollar				2,742.53				2,742.53
Senator Sam Brownback:									
Kenya	Dollar		1,470.00						1,470.00
United States	Dollar				6,961.15				6,961.15
Senator Christopher Dodd:									
Belgium	Dollar		100.00						100.00
United States	Dollar				5,975.97				5,975.97
United States	Dollar				3,029.00				3,029.00
Senator Chuck Hagel:									
United States	Dollar				4,971.37				4,971.37
Senator John Kerry:									
Thailand	Dollar		240.00						240.00
Cambodia	Dollar		121.00						121.00
Vietnam	Dollar		556.00						556.00
United Kingdom	Dollar		280.00						280.00
United States	Dollar				11,006.92				11,006.92
Frank Jannuzi:									
Taiwan	Dollar		955.50						955.50
United States	Dollar				3,277.55				3,277.55
Michael Miller:									
South Africa	Dollar		1,003.10						1,003.10
United States	Dollar				5,600.99				5,600.99
Janice O'Connell:									
Belgium	Dollar		150.00						150.00
France	Dollar		332.00						332.00
United States	Dollar				5,397.79				5,397.79
Nancy Stetson:									
Thailand	Dollar		240.00						240.00
Cambodia	Dollar		130.00						130.00
Vietnam	Dollar		393.00						393.00
United Kingdom	Dollar		281.00						281.00
United States	Dollar				6,959.40				6,959.40
Michael Westphal:									
South Africa	Dollar		914.78						914.78
United States	Dollar				5,600.99				5,600.99
Total			7,166.38		61,523.66				68,690.04

JESSE HELMS,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, July 27, 1999.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FOREIGN CURRENCIES AND APPROPRIATED FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 1999

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Fred Thompson:									
United States	Dollar				7,310.13				7,310.13
Italy	Lira		646.00						646.00
Germany	Deutschmark		420.00						420.00
Curtis Silvers:									
United States	Dollar				5,402.13				5,402.13
Italy	Lira		544.00						544.00